

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)**

PROJECT FACT SHEET

7 APRIL 1995

REVISION 1: 14 APRIL 1995

TAG REVIEW DATE: 26 JULY 1995

SECOND TAG REVIEW DATE: 22 AUGUST 1996

1. SITE NAME: Camp Claybanks Antiaircraft Artillery Range

SITE NUMBER: E05MI003402

LOCATION:

City: New Era

County: Oceana

State: Michigan

PROJECT NUMBER: E05MI003402

CATEGORY: OE

2. POC'S:

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3. SITE DESCRIPTION: The former Camp Claybanks Antiaircraft Artillery Range consisted of approximately 438 acres, with an additional 49,403 acres located out in Lake Michigan that made up a water space danger area. The camp was located approximately 30 miles north of Muskegon, Michigan, near New Era, Michigan, in Claybanks Township, Oceana County on the east edge of Lake Michigan. The land has been subdivided into many housing lots. Some of the leases went back to the original owners and were returned to farm land. The land for the most part has very

heavy vegetation and tree growth throughout.

Oceana County is a gently sloping flat land varying in elevation from 580 feet above sea level to 1,083. The former camp area is mainly flat with the exception of a 100 foot drop to the beach with a 60 degree slope. The former camp consists of mostly heavily wooded areas with very dense overgrowth. The unconsolidated sediment over bedrock ranges from 600 feet thick in the northern part of the county to 200 feet in the southern part. The soils show great variations in texture, reaction and drainage, and change from sandy to loamy in short distances. Major drainage occurs along the Pentwater River in the northern part of the county, Stony Creek in the southwest part and the White River in the south eastern part. No natural or cultural resources are known to exist in this area that would hinder the outcome of any recommended projects.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. In 1953 the DOD acquired by lease approximately 438 acres of land along the east edge of Lake Michigan for use as an Antiaircraft Artillery Training Range. The camp was to be utilized to train Active Army, National Guard and organized Reserve anti-aircraft batteries. Practice firing was to consist of .50 cal, 40mm, and 90mm, and 120mm weapons systems.

b. The DOD also had to acquire a lease on Lake Michigan to establish a water space danger area consisting of approximately 49,403 acres.

c. After only 5 short years of existence, in 1958 the camp was placed in an excess status for disposal of the property. The leases were all terminated and all personnel and equipment were transferred to Camp Haven near Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Records indicate that quantities of conventional munitions were fired at drones or aircraft towed banners over the Lake Michigan area. The camp provided a practice firing range for the active Army, National Guard, and organized Reserve anti-aircraft batteries. Eight areas were identified during the archives search of which one site had confirmed OE presence, four were potential sites and still were uncontaminated. Three of the areas should be investigated further.

AREA "A": Artillery Firing Line

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Size Acres: | 56.78 acres |
| Former Usage: | Firing Line |
| Present Usage: | Residential |
| Probable End Usage: | Same |
| Ordnance Presence: | Confirmed |
| Types: | 50 cal. small arms |
| Density: | Unknown |
| Ordnance Depth: | Subsurface |
| Ordnance Presence: | Potential |
| Types: | 40mm, 90mm, 120mm (HE and training) |
| Density: | Unknown |

Ordinance Depth: Unknown
ASR Recommends: EE/CA

AREA "B": Cantonment Area

Size Acres: 98.51 acres
Former Usage: Cantonment Area
Present Usage: Timber/Prairie Land
Probable End Usage: Same
Ordinance Presence: Uncontaminated
ASR Recommends: No Further Action

AREA "C": Launch Pad/Sewer Filter Area

Size Acres: 30.37 acres
Former Usage: Launch Pad and Sewer Filter System
Present Usage: Housing Lot
Probable End Usage: Same
Ordinance Presence: Uncontaminated
ASR Recommends: No Further Action

AREA "D": Storage Area

Size Acres: 78.67 acres
Former Usage: Ammunition Storage Area
Present Usage: Housing/Timberland
Probable End Usage: Same
Ordinance Presence: Potential
Types: 50 cal, 40mm, 90mm, 120mm (HE and training)
Density: Unknown
Ordinance Depth: Subsurface
ASR Recommends: Expanded Site Investigation

AREA "E": Suspected Burial Ground/Demil Pit/Rifle Range

Size Acres: 9.76 acres
Former Usage: Rifle Range (Demil Pit)
Present Usage: Housing
Probable End Usage: Same
Ordinance Presence: Potential
Types: 30 cal, 45 cal, 50 cal, 40mm, 90mm, 120mm (HE and training)
Density: Unknown
Ordinance Depth: Subsurface
ASR Recommends: Expanded Site Investigation

AREA "F": Observation Areas

Size Acres: 3.36 acres
Former Usage: Observation Areas
Present Usage: Public Park, housing
Probable End Usage: Same
Ordnance Presence: Uncontaminated
ASR Recommends: No Further Action

AREA "G": Water space Danger Area

Size Acres: 49,403.74 acres
Former Usage: Water space Danger Area
Present Usage: Recreation
Probable End Usage: Same
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Types: 50 cal, 40mm, 90mm, 120mm (HE and training)
Density: Unknown
Ordnance Depth: Underwater
ASR Recommends: No Further Action

AREA "H": Remaining Lands

Size Acres: 160.98 acres
Former Usage: Waste Land
Present Usage: Housing
Probable End Usage: Same
Ordnance Presence: Potential
Types: 50 cal, 40mm, 90mm, 120mm (HE and training)
Density: Unknown
Ordnance Depth: Unknown
ASR Recommends: Expanded Site Investigation

6.0 CURRENT STATUS: The ASR was completed in March 1995 by the Rock Island District. A SOW for site characterization of the area of concern should be developed.

7. STRATEGY: Prioritization of sites indicates that work in Area D should be first and then only in the area surrounding the old ammunition storage area in the northwest corner. Unexploded 40mm shells have been found previously in this area. A magnetometer sweep of this portion of Area D should be conducted to locate possible burial sites. This area should be maintained as a RAC 2 site.

Area A covers the old anti-aircraft firing line and small arms ordnance have been uncovered in this area on an isolated basis. There is no evidence to indicate that large quantities exist; therefore, Area A should be changed from a RAC 2 to a RAC 5, no further action.

Area E covers what is suspected as a burial ground, demil pit and rifle range. There have been no reports of any unexploded ordnance found in this area. The TAG recommends that the EE/CA include this area.

Areas B, C, and E indicate no evidence of unexploded ordnance; therefore, no further action is required.

Area G represents the impact area/danger zone that extends into Lake Michigan. Therefore, in accordance with USACE memorandum, subject: Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) - Site Eligibility Policy Clarification for Ordnance and Explosives (OE) at Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS), no further action is required, whereas, there is little probability that unexploded ordnance will migrate to shore.

Area H represents the remaining lands on the Formerly Used Defense Site. There have been no reports of unexploded ordnance in this area, and the activities previously performed in this area do not lend themselves to the presence of OE. Therefore, no further action is required on this site.

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: No resources are known to exist in this area that would hinder the outcome of any recommended projects. However the State Historical Preservation Office requested that they be provided any additional information prior to the performance of any projects.

PHASE I: Presented to TAG for decision/resolution.

PHASE II: Remaining issues and concerns identified to PM prior to project start.

1. Some recommendations, contamination concerns, and area usage identified in the ASR are suspect at best. Determination of the time, cost, and effort used to characterize these areas should be well thought out.

2. Determine if site characterization is required for areas identified in the ASR where no contamination could be found, or no documentation or personal accounts of contamination were recorded.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only

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